

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process cartridge, comprising:

a case;

an image carrier rotatably provided at the case, a surface of the image carrier being divided into four sections by two perpendicular lines that are perpendicular to a center of the image carrier;

a charger that is disposed on the case along the surface of the image carrier and that charges the surface of the image carrier; and

a developing member that is disposed on the case along the surface of the image carrier and that supplies a developing agent to the image carrier, wherein the charger is located at a first section of the four sections and the developing member is located at a second section of the four sections that is opposite to the first section.

2. The process cartridge according to claim 1, further comprising:

a transfer member that is disposed on the case along the surface of the image carrier and that transfers the developing agent from the surface of the image carrier to a recording medium, wherein the transfer member is located at a third section of the four section that is between the first section and the second section.

3. The process cartridge according to claim 2, wherein the case includes an opening disposed at a fourth section of the four sections that is opposite to the third section.

4. The process cartridge according to claim 2, wherein the charger is located closer to the transfer member than the developing member.

5. The process cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the charger, the image carrier and the developing member are located along a straight line.

6. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image carrier rotatably provided at the image forming apparatus, a surface of the image carrier being divided into four sections by two perpendicular lines that are perpendicular to a center of the image carrier;

a charger that is disposed along the surface of the image carrier and that charges the surface of the image carrier; and

a developing member that is disposed along the surface of the image carrier and that supplies a developing agent to the image carrier, wherein the charger is located at a first section of the four sections and the developing member is located at a second section of the four sections that is opposite to the first section.

7. The image forming apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

a transfer member that is disposed along the surface of the image carrier and that transfers the developing agent from the surface of the image carrier to a recording medium, wherein the transfer member is located at a third section of the four sections that is between the first section and the second section.

8. The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

an exposure unit that is disposed along the surface of the image carrier and that emits a light beam onto the surface of the image carrier, wherein the exposure unit is located at a fourth section of the four sections that is opposite to the third section.

9. The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the charger is located closer to the transfer member than the developing member.

10. The image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the charger, the image carrier and the developing member are located along a straight line.

11. The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the image carrier, the charger and the developing member are provided at a case of a process cartridge.

12. The image forming apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

an accommodating portion that accommodates the process cartridge, wherein the process cartridge is attached to and removed from the accommodating portion in a direction that is parallel to the straight line.

13. The image forming apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

an exposure unit that is disposed along the surface of the image carrier and that emits a light beam onto the surface of the image carrier, wherein the exposure unit is located above the process cartridge.

14. The image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the exposure unit comprises:

a light source that emits the light beam;

a scanning element that scans the light beam to travel along a light path; and

a single reflecting unit that reflects the light beam toward the image carrier.

15. The image forming apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the light path is placed substantially within a plane parallel to the straight line.

16. The image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the case includes an opening disposed at a fourth section of the four sections and the light beam emitted by the exposure unit passes through the opening.

17. The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising:
a supply device that supplies the recording medium to the image carrier, the
developing agent being transferred to the recording medium from the image carrier; and
a discharge device that discharges the recording medium on which the
developing agent is transferred to a discharge tray, wherein the discharge tray is disposed to
be parallel to the straight line.

18. The image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the supply device
feeds the recording medium along a feed path, the feed path being parallel to the straight line.

19. The image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the process
cartridge comprises:

a hopper that is formed with the case, the hopper storing the developing agent
therein, wherein the hopper includes a top surface which is part of the case, the top surface
being parallel to the straight line.

20. The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the image carrier,
the charger, the developing member and the transfer member are provided at a case of a
process cartridge.

21. The image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the charger is
located closer to the transfer member than the developing member.

22. The image forming apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the charger, the
image carrier and the developing member are located along a straight line.

23. The image forming apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising:
an accommodating portion that accommodates the process cartridge, wherein
the process cartridge is attached to and removed from the accommodating portion in a
direction that is parallel to the straight line.

24. A process cartridge, comprising:

a photosensitive drum that rotates relative to a photosensitive drum shaft;
a charger that is disposed along a surface of the photosensitive drum and that
charges the surface of the photosensitive drum; and
a developing roller that rotates relative to a developing roller shaft, that is
disposed along the surface of the photosensitive drum and that supplies toner to the
photosensitive drum, wherein the charger is located along a straight line that connects the
photosensitive drum shaft and the developing roller shaft.

25. The process cartridge according to claim 24, further comprising:
a transfer roller that is disposed along the surface of the photosensitive drum
between the charger and the developing roller and that transfers the toner to a recording
medium.

26. The process cartridge according to claim 25, wherein the charger is located
closer to the transfer roller than the developing roller.

27. The process cartridge according to claim 25, wherein the surface of the
photosensitive drum is divided into four sections by two perpendicular lines that are
perpendicular to the photosensitive drum shaft, the charger being located at a first section of
the four sections, the developing roller being located at a second section of the four sections
that is opposite to the first section and the transfer roller being located at a third section of the
four sections between the first section and the second section.

28. The process cartridge according to claim 27, further comprising:
a case that supports the photosensitive drum, the charger, the developing roller
and the transfer roller, the case having an opening at a fourth section of the four sections that
is opposite to the third section.